

To: Mahmud, Shahid[Mahmud.Shahid@epa.gov]
From: Woolford, James
Sent: Thur 8/13/2015 3:44:02 PM
Subject: FW: region specific chats - Region 1 Updated Mine Site information
Mine Information Site Maine VT.docx

Jim Woolford, Director
Office of Superfund Remediation & Technology Innovation
US EPA

Sent from my Windows Phone
Please excuse typos

From: Barmakian, Nancy
Sent: 8/13/2015 9:19 AM
To: Stalcup, Dana; Woolford, James
Cc: Olson, Bryan; Loughlin, Anni
Subject: Re: region specific chats - Region 1 Updated Mine Site information

Dana and Jim- Our mining sites RPM is not available today for a call. I think we should be ok with the revised briefing I have attached and the information we provided to Dana yesterday. Please let me know.

Ed Hathaway drafted the attached write-ups using the draft criteria that was shared during the National Mining Team call. After reviewing the design again, the Callahan Remedial Design evaluated the stability of the tailing impoundment during the horizontal drain installation and it determined to not be a significant risk. As a result, he described this as a low risk activity. The entire design is on the EPA Callahan website.

He did not include either the Vermont Asbestos Group mine because it is not an NPL site. It was an open pit mine and has large waste piles but no tailing dams. There is a mine in NH, Ore Hill Mine, that is being managed by the Forest Service. They did a NTCRA but we were not involved.

Ed also provided the following important information:

I read a statement in the press last night saying Gina want work to stop on similar sites or situations. From that perspective, we do not have any similar sites or situations to Gold King. While most mining sites do have adits (horizontal tunnels), Gold King is a high elevation mine with difficult access which makes creating site controls difficult. The area has numerous mines that may be interconnected from a mine pool perspective. The adits (particularly the American Tunnel and Red and Bonita adits along with the Gold King) in the area have experienced historic flows in the hundreds of gallons per minutes. The specific action was to expose and adit to facilitate improved drainage.

Fortunately, our sites are singular in that none are interconnected. They are accessible and controls can be put in place. The historical flows are in the low gallons per minute (1 gpm -20 gpm). The one similarity is that at some point in the future we may be excavating and controlling adits at Ely Mine and possibly Elizabeth Mine but no activity is planned for the near future and any potential activity can await the outcome of the review and independent study.